

# Ulrich Zwingli

## *Stripping away dead tradition*

SOLA GRATIA

October 1, 2017  
Dr. Ted Kitchens

*"My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:30*

*For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people ... Titus 2:11-14*

### I. Real Life in 16th Century Switzerland

- A. Like Germany, the church in Switzerland continued to be spiritually abusive.
- B. The Holy Roman Empire was crumbling as religion and politics mixed in a difficult dance of church and state.

### II. A New Voice Speaks Out in Switzerland: Ulrich Zwingli

- A. Through the influence of Luther and Erasmus, the layers of tradition fell away and Zwingli saw the glorious gospel of grace.
- B. Zwingli started the Swiss Reformation from the pulpit of the influential Grossmünster Church in Zurich, March 1522.

### III. Zwingli's Theological Foundation: *Sola Gratia*

- A. Grace is the Good News that everything has already been done for us in Christ Jesus, and is offered as a free gift.
  - 1. The reformer knew that man's spiritual state was desperate and his sin was not just a cosmetic problem. (*Is 64:6*)
  - 2. Conversely, Catholicism taught 'self-salvation,' that man could earn God's favor by his own works. (*Lk 18:10-14*)
  - 3. The reformer embraced the New Testament teaching that salvation was a gift from God, not by man's efforts. (*Eph 2:8-9*)
- B. The New Testament doctrine of grace still requires the full penalty for sin, which God provided through His Son Jesus.
  - 1. The reformer preached that the cross and resurrection are slandered if one relies on the merits of man to save him.
  - 2. Conversely, Catholicism also taught a doctrine of grace—but it was grace that merely bolstered human merit.
  - 3. Zwingli insisted that the source of God's grace is His own graciousness and character, not our works.

*"Christ, having sacrificed himself once, is to eternity a certain and valid sacrifice for the sins of all faithful." ULRICH ZWINGLI*

## *The Reformation matters today*

IT REMINDS US THAT:

God's merciful grace frees us from the \_\_\_\_\_ 'backpack' of human legalism and tradition. (*Matt 11:30*)

This unmerited favor is sufficient to cover our repeated \_\_\_\_\_. (*Matt 9:13*)

To be "with" Christ is the \_\_\_\_\_ of grace and the substance of salvation. (*Phil 1:23*)

The gift of grace calls us to \_\_\_\_\_ with a willing heart—we are not saved *BY* but *FOR* good works. (*Ti 2:11-14*)

*"Our confidence in Christ does not make us lazy, negligent, or careless, but on the contrary it awakens us, urges us on, and makes us active in living righteous lives and doing good. There is no self-confidence to compare with this."*  
ULRICH ZWINGLI



1479	1484	1498	1516	1517	1519	1522	1524	1529	1531
Establishment of Spanish Inquisition	Ulrich Zwingli born in Wildhaus, Switzerland	Leonardo da Vinci completes <i>The Last Supper</i>	Erasmus Greek New Testament	Luther writes 95 Theses	Zwingli becomes pastor at Grossmünster Church	Zwingli consumes sausage during Lent; secretly marries Anna Reinhart	Zwingli and Anna publicly wed	Zwingli and Luther attend Marburg Colloquy but reach no agreement on the Lord's Supper	Zwingli, age 47, dies along with 24 other pastors defending Zurich from Catholic forces in Battle of Kappel

## REFLECTING ON THE REFORMATION

### grace = the unmerited favor of God

Have you come to understand the concept of grace as taught in the New Testament? How did God bring you to understand it, and what how did the realization of it affect your daily life?

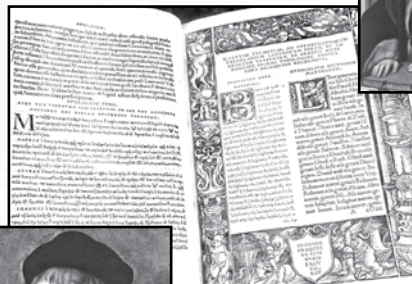
Some have explained that grace is giving up your own efforts to please God and cooperating with the Holy Spirit as He gradually changes you to become more like Jesus. What objection to this way of living do those who like to follow rules have, and why?

Give examples of how trying to earn God's favor through works can be extremely subtle.

In what ways do you still struggle to live by God's grace alone and feel guilty when you don't follow rules? How do you realign your thinking when this occurs?

How is the statement that "it's not a religion but a relationship" driven home for you through the teachings of Ulrich Zwingli?

Erasmus' 1516 Greek Edition of the New Testament on display at Princeton Theological Seminary



Desiderius Erasmus Roterodamus (1466-1536), known as Erasmus, was a Dutch humanist, Catholic priest, social critic, teacher and theologian



Ulrich Zwingli



The Murder of Zwingli, 11 October 1531 by Karl Jauslin

### THE WORDS OF ULRICH ZWINGLI

"For when man through repentance has come to the knowledge of himself, he finds nothing but utter despair. Hence, wholly distrusting himself, he is forced to take refuge in the mercy of God. But when he has begun to do that, justice makes him afraid. Then Christ appears, who has satisfied the divine justice for our trespasses. When once there is faith in Him, then salvation is found; for He is the infallible pledge of God's mercy."

"God gives us everything in the name of Christ. Hence we need no other intercessors."

"Consequently, confession to a priest or a neighbor is not for remission of sins but for counseling."

"For God's sake, do not put yourself at odds with the Word of God. For truly it will persist as surely as the Rhine follows its course. One can perhaps dam it up for awhile, but it is impossible to stop it."

"I beseech Christ for this one thing only, that He will enable me to endure all things courageously, and that He break me as a potter's vessel or make me strong, as it pleases Him."

Selections from *The Sixty-Seven Articles of Ulrich Zwingli*:

- I. All who say that the Gospel is invalid without the confirmation of the Church err and slander God.
- III. Christ is the only way to salvation for all who ever were, are and shall be.
- XXII. That Christ is our justice, from which follows that our works in so far as they are good, so far they are of Christ, but in so far as they are ours, they are neither right nor good.
- L. God alone remits sin through Jesus Christ, his Son, and alone our Lord.
- LVII. The true divine Scriptures know nothing about purgatory after this life.
- LVIII. The sentence of the dead is known to God only.
- LIX. And the less God has let us know concerning it, the less we should undertake to know about it.

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

**WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED WITH "ROOTS" —PICK UP STUDY MATERIALS TODAY!** We've just kicked off our fall series on the Reformation and we'd love for you to join us this week. Groups are meeting all over the city to study with friends, coworkers and neighbors. Pick up books and a DVD today in the Great Room or Atrium—this fall's study materials feature Pastor Ted and some of our own Christ Chapel family.

**THERE'S A NEW "ROOTS" LUNCH AND LEARN TODAY.** While changing the world, the leaders of the Reformation faced plenty of trials and struggles. Join John and Carolyn Hannah as they share more about the reformers' personal lives and the amazing role their wives played over lunch in the Oak Room at 12:30 p.m. Can't make it today? The next Lunch and Learn will be Sunday, Oct. 15. RSVP now for Next Generation Kids Care (through age 11) at [www.ccbcfamily.org/KidsRSVP](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/KidsRSVP).

**DIVE DEEPER WITH OUR "ROOTS" ONLINE LEARNING COURSE.** Want even more of the Reformation? From theology and history to the personalities of the movement, this online course is a chance to get a "behind the curtain" look at this period with new content every week including interviews with Dr. John Hannah and CCBC pastors as well as essays, videos and more. Start diving deeper today at [www.ccbcfamily.org/divedeep](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/divedeep).

**THE BOOKSTORE HAS EXTRA REFORMATION READS.** Each week of our fall series, we're adding new books on the Reformation's five "solae." If you'd like to pick up something on the topic of grace today, stop by the shop on the first floor of the Link Building.

**MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, WE NEED YOUR SKILLS FOR AN UPCOMING MISSION TRIP.** In February 2018, a CCBC medical team is heading to India and we still need a physician and pharmacist to join us. Hear about the opportunity at today's lunch meeting in Link Classroom South at 12:30 p.m. You can also learn more by emailing Danella at [DanellaH@christchapelbc.org](mailto:DanellaH@christchapelbc.org).

**TOPICS IN PARENTING'S "BEGINNINGS" STARTS NEXT SUNDAY, OCT. 8.** New parents, whether you're months from delivery or getting your bearings for life with a newborn, we want to help prepare you for the journey ahead. Over three Sundays we'll talk about how to care for your marriage as new parents and learn from some of Christ Chapel's own doctors about caring for moms and babies. The class will meet at 9:15 a.m. in Link Classroom South. Questions? Email Jessica at [JessicaK@christchapelbc.org](mailto:JessicaK@christchapelbc.org).

**FIND LOCAL OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES.** Interested in more ways to get involved serving locally? Well, look no further! Visit our new serve page at [www.ccbcfamily.org/serve](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/serve) for information on CCBC's ministry partners and how you can serve alongside them.



[www.ccbcfamily.org/DiveDeeper](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/DiveDeeper)

- An online learning experience that explores:
  - core doctrines of the Reformation
  - history surrounding this paradigm-shifting event
  - larger-than-life reformation figures
  - a personal Spiritual Growth Assessment tool

For more information contact Tyler at [TylerD@christchapelbc.org](mailto:TylerD@christchapelbc.org)

